

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Richmond, December 7, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 160. }

I. The following schedules of prices for articles named therein, adopted by commissioners appointed pursuant to law, for the State of Virginia, are announced for the information of all concerned; and the special attention of officers and agents of the government is directed thereto:

II.

RICHMOND, Dec. 4, 1863.

Hon. James A. Seddon:

SIR,

In revising and preparing the schedules of prices for December and January, we requested the aid of Mr. Wm. B. Harrison, and it is proper to add that the prices agreed upon received the unanimous approval of the commissioners. We respectfully offer the accompanying schedules A and B, with the understanding that the prices therein indicated are to remain for the months of December and January, unless in the interval it should be deemed by us necessary to modify them.

The following schedules present the maximum prices to be paid for the articles appraised, at all cities and usual places of sale, and when impressed elsewhere, the same prices are to be paid elsewhere, less the cost of transportation to the city or usual place of sale to which the article would go ordinarily for sale from that neighborhood, or less the cost of transportation to the point at which the government needs the article, and wishes it to be sent; provided, that in no case the amount deducted for transportation as above, shall exceed 25 cents per bushel for grain, and 25 cents per cwt. for long forage, flour, bacon, iron, &c. In addition to the established price of transportation, the government to pay all legal tolls; and where farmers cannot procure nails for baling forage, government to furnish the same at cost, which will be deducted from the established price for baling:

SCHEDULE A.

ARTICLES.	QUALITY.	DESCRIPTION.	QUANTITY.	PRICE.
1 Wheat,	Prime,	White or red,	Per bus. of 60 lbs.	\$ 5 00
2 Flour,	Good,	Fine,	" bbl. of 196 lbs.	22 00
"	"	Superfine,	" " 196 lbs.	25 00
"	"	Extra sup' fine,	" " 196 lbs.	26 50
"	"	Family,	" " 196 lbs.	28 00
3 Corn,	Prime,	White or yel'w,	" bus. of 56 lbs.	4 00
4 Unshelled corn,	"	" "	" " 56 lbs.	3 95
5 Corn meal,	Good,	-	" " 50 lbs.	4 20
6 Rye,	Prime,	-	" " 56 lbs.	3 20
7 Cleaned oats,	"	-	" " 32 lbs.	2 50
8 Wheat bran,	Good,	-	" " 17 lbs.	50
9 Shorts,	"	-	" " 22 lbs.	70
10 Brown stuff,	"	-	" " 28 lbs.	90
11 Ship stuff,	"	-	" " 37 lbs.	1 40
12 Bacon,	"	Hog round,	" pound,	1 25
13 Salt pork,	"	-	" "	1 10
Fresh "	Fat and good,	-	Per lb. net weight,	80
14 Lard,	Good,	-	" pound,	1 25
15 Horses,	First class,	Artillery, &c.	Av'ge price per head,	350 00
16 Wool,	Fair or Merino,	Washed,	Per pound,	3 00
17 Wool,	Fair or Merino,	Unwashed,	" "	2 00
18 Peas,	Good,	-	" bus. of 60 lbs.	4 00
19 Beans,	"	-	" " 60 lbs.	4 00
20 Potatoes,	"	Irish,	" " 60 lbs.	4 00
21 Potatoes,	"	Sweet,	" " 60 lbs.	5 00
22 Onions,	"	-	" " 60 lbs.	5 00
23 Dried peaches,	"	Pealed,	" " 38 lbs.	8 00
24 Dried peaches,	"	Unpealed,	" " 38 lbs.	4 50
25 Dried apples,	"	Pealed,	" " 28 lbs.	3 00
26 Hay, baled,	"	Timothy		
		or clover,	" 100 pounds,	3 50
27 Hay, baled,	"	Orchard or		
		herd grass,	" 100 "	3 00
28 Hay, unbaled,	"	Orchard or		
		herd grass,	" 100 "	3 00
29 Sheaf oats, baled,	"	-	" 100 "	4 00
30 " " unb'd,	"	-	" 100 "	3 50
31 Blade fodder, baled,	"	-	" 100 "	3 50
32 " " unb'd,	"	-	" 100 "	3 00
33 Shucks, baled,	"	-	" 100 "	2 20
34 " unbaled,	"	-	" 100 "	1 70
35 Wheat straw, bl'd,	"	-	" 100 "	1 80
36 " " unb'd,	"	-	" 100 "	1 30
37 Pasturage,	"	Interior,	" head per month,	3 00
38 " "	Superior,	"	" " "	4 00
39 " "	First rate,	"	" " "	5 00
40 " "	Good,	Near cities,	" " "	5 00
41 " "	Superior,	"	" " "	6 00
42 " "	First rate,	"	" " "	7 00
43 Salt,	Good,	-	" bus. of 50 lbs.	5 00
44 Soap,	"	-	" pound,	40
45 Candles,	"	Tallow,	" "	2 00
46 Vinegar,	"	Cider,	" gallon,	2 00
47 Whiskey,	"	Trade,	" "	3 00
48 Sugar,	"	Brown,	" pound,	1 50
49 Molasses,	"	New Orleans,	" gallon,	10 00
50 Rice,	"	-	" pound,	20

SCHEDULE A—Continued.

ARTICLES.	QUALITY.	DESCRIPTION.	QUANTITY.	PRICE.
51 Coffee,	Good,	Rio,	Per pound,	\$ 3 00
52 Tea,	"	Trade,	" "	7 00
53 Vinegar,	"	Manufactured,	" gallon,	50
54 Pig iron,	"	No. 1 quality,	" ton,	150 00
55 Pig iron,	"	No. 2 quality,	" "	122 00
56 "	"	No. 3 quality,	" "	120 00
57 Bloom iron,	"	—	" "	216 00
58 Smith's iron,	"	Round, plate and bar,	" "	456 00
59 Rail road iron,	"	—	" "	190 00
60 Leather,	"	Harness,	" pound,	2 60
61 "	"	Sole,	" "	2 40
62 "	"	Upper,	" "	2 80
63 Beef cattle,	"	Gross weight,	" 100 pounds,	16 00
64 " "	Superior,	" "	" 100 "	18 00
65 " "	First rate,	" "	" 100 "	20 00
66 Sheep,	Fair,	—	" head,	30 00
67 Armywoolen cl'th, ¾ yard,	Good,	10 oz. per yd.	" yard,	5 00
68 Armywoolen cl'th,	"	Pro rata as to greater or less	Width or weight,	
69 Armywoolen cl'th, 6-4 yard,	"	20 oz. per yd.	Per yard,	10 00
70 Armywoolen cl'th,	"	Pro rata as to greater or less	Width or weight,	
71 Flannels,	"	6 oz. per yd.	Per yard,	4 00
72 Cotton shirting,	"	4½ yds. to lb.	" "	56
73 " "	"	3½ yds. to lb.	" "	84
74 " sheet'gs, 4-4,	"	3 yds. to lb.	" "	87
75 " oznab'gs,	"	6 oz. per yd.	" "	75
76 " "	"	8 oz. per yd.	" "	88
77 " drills,	"	3 yds. to lb.	" "	88
78 Cot. shirt'g stripes,	"	3 yds. to lb.	" "	88
79 " tent cloths,	"	10 oz. per yd.	" "	1 12
80 On the above enumerated cotton cloths, pro rata as to greater or less width or weight.				
81 Cotton warps,	Good,	—	Per pound,	2 00
82 Army shoes,	"	—	" pair,	10 00
83 Shoe thread,	"	—	" pound,	2 00
84 Wool socks, men's,	"	—	" pair,	1 25
85 Mules,	First rate,	Wagon, &c.	Av'ge price per head,	300 00
86 Corn top fodder, baled,	Good,	—	Per 100 pounds,	2 00
87 Corn top fodder, unbaled,	"	—	" 100 "	1 50
88 Wheat chaff, bal'd,	"	—	" 100 "	2 00
89 " " unb'd,	"	—	" 100 "	1 50
90 Sorghum molasses,	"	—	" gallon,	8 60
91 Pastu'ge for sheep,	"	Interior,	" head,	40
92 " "	Superior,	"	" "	50
93 " "	First rate,	"	" "	60

In assessing the average value of "first class artillery and wagon horses at \$350," we designed that the term should be accepted and acted upon according to its obvious common sense import. In other words, that horses should be selected, and then impressed accordingly as their

working qualities and adaptation to army service, together with their intrinsic value, would warrant a judicious purchaser in considering them as coming within the contemplation of the commissioners when they assessed the average value of such horses as the government needed, at \$350. But cases might arise, however, when the public exigencies would be so urgent as to demand that *all* horses at hand should be impressed. Yet under ordinary circumstances, when family or extra blooded horses, or brood mares of *admitted high value* are impressed, we respectfully suggest to the Secretary of War to have instructions forwarded to the impressing officers to propose and allow the owners to *substitute* in their stead such strong, sound and serviceable horses or mules as shall be considered and valued by competent and disinterested parties as first class artillery horses, or first rate wagon mules.

The term "average value per head" was used in contradistinction to a fixed and uniform price for each horse or mule. We supposed that in impressing a number of horses or mules, whether owned by several persons, or one individual, that some might be estimated at \$250, or even at less, and others at different advanced rates, according to their worth, up as high as \$450, or above that amount—thus making an *average* value or price for a *number* of good, sound and efficient horses, \$350 each, and mules \$300 each.

In illustration of our views, we will add, that a horse with only one eye sound, might, in all other respects, be classed as a first rate artillery horse, yet the loss of one eye would justly and considerably curtail his value. So a horse from 10 to 18 years of age might be deemed in all other particulars as a first class artillery horse, but of course, however efficient or able to render good service for a year or so, yet his advanced age would justly and materially impair his value. Any horse, however he may approximate the standard of a first class artillery horse, must, according to deficiencies, fall below the maximum price; and as few comparatively exactly come up to the standard, and therefore are entitled to the maximum price, so of course in all other instances the price should be proportionately reduced, as imperfections place them below the standard of first class, &c.

SCHEDULE B—Hire of Labor, Teams, Wagons and Drivers.

	Quantity and Time.	Price.
1. Baling long forage, - - -	Per 100 pounds,	\$ 0 50
2. Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by government, - - -	" 56 "	05
3. Hauling, - - -	" cwt. pr. mile,	08
4. Hauling grain, - - -	" bus. "	04
5. Hire of two-horse team, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, - - -	" day,	10 00
6. Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - -	" day,	5 00
7. Hire of four-horse team, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, - - -	" day,	13 00
8. Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - -	" day,	6 50
9. Hire of six-horse team, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, - - -	" day,	16 00
10. Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - -	" day,	8 00
11. Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, - - -	" day,	2 50
12. Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - -	" day,	1 50
13. Hire of same, rations and clothing furnished by owner, - - -	" month,	50 00
14. Hire of same, rations furnished by the government, - - -	" month,	30 00
15. Hire of teamsters, rations furnished by government, - - -	" month,	40 00
16. Hire of laborer, clothing and rations furnished by government, - - -	" year,	300 00
17. Hire of same, clothing and rations furnished by owner, - - -	" year,	550 00
18. Hire of same, rations only furnished by government, - - -	" year,	400 00

Upon farther consideration, we have concluded to value sheaf oats, hay and blade fodder, east of the Blue Ridge mountains, when baled, at \$5 per 100 pounds, and unbaled at \$4 50 per 100 pounds.

E. W. HUBARD,
ROBERT GIBBONEY,
WM. B. HARRISON,
Commissioners for Va.

By order.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.